

WOMT Summary for 5/20/08:

Citing their continued high concern due to declining abundance indices, the possibility that delta smelt spawning is still on-going, recent delta smelt salvage totals, and the distribution of adult and juvenile delta smelt based on Spring Kodiak Trawl and 20-mm survey data, and based on Particle Tracking Results, the Smelt Working Group recommended to WOMT that the Projects operate to a 7-day running average Old & Middle River flow of -2,000 cfs beginning on May 23rd (following VAMP). The SWG also recommended that the flapgates on the agricultural barriers be tied open.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service determined that operating to an OMR more positive than -2000 cfs and keeping the ag barriers' flapgates tied open would be adequately protective of delta smelt. The Department of Fish and Game determined that this operation would be adequately protective of longfin smelt.

This operation is expected to continue through June 3 unless circumstances warrant a change before then.

Also, WOMT has agreed to open the Delta Cross Channel gates over Memorial Day weekend.